

CLAIMS:

- (1) A method for treating a carton having a flap member distorted by dehydration comprising applying sufficient moisture to said member to cause re-hydration thereof.
- (2) A method for treating an erected carton which has at least one sealing flap member distorted through dehydrating thereby obstructing an opening in said carton, said method comprising treating said flap with sufficient moisture to re-hydrate same and negate said distraction.
- (3) A method for packing articles into a carton, said process comprising manipulating a carton flat having flaps adapted to seal an opening into the carton wherein an erected open condition moisturizing any warped closure flaps to negate said warp during transport of said carton to a packing station where it is filled by inserting a complement of articles through said opening into said container, manipulating said flaps so that they overlie the articles in the carton and securing the flaps together to seal the carton.
- (4) A packaging machine adapted to receive a carton flat having sealing flaps susceptible to warping when dehydrated, erect the carton flat into an open carton, fill and seal the open carton, the machine comprising a means for erecting the carton blank into a carton having an opening, closurable by said sealing flaps for the insertion of articles; means for moistening the sealing flaps to counteract or prevent any warping of said flaps which would hinder insertion of said articles into said carton; means for filling said carton with a complement of articles; means to manipulate said flaps to overlie said articles; and means to secure said flats together to seal said carton.